Federal Communications Commission

RE: 25-133 (Delete, delete, delete)

April 9, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I am in favor of eliminating licensing for both amateur and General Mobile Radio service operations. There is great value in both services, however the regulatory burden for licensing in this era is laughable.

GMRS equipment is available off-the-shelf everywhere and is heavily used in off road driving and adventuring, neighborhood watch and family outings. Nobody except hardcore operators even bother buying a license, and since there is no Commission enforcement of operating practices or callsign use anyway, just do away with licensing altogether for the purposes of deleting unnecessary regulations. Keep the Part 95E technical specifications to prevent clueless operators from potentially operating outside the GMRS band, however.

The prohibition against GMRS repeater linking is ridiculous and needs to be repealed. Linking repeaters could be of tremendous value if a region is affected by a natural disaster that takes down public infrastructure, as Hurricane Helene proved in 2024.

GMRS is used heavily in neighborhood and community watch, for family and social network emergency planning and preparedness and in disaster relief support. There is a *bona fide* need for encrypted voice communications in these cases. The prohibition against digital audio and encryption needs to be repealed. It is none of anybody else's business where my children are playing or what my family is doing, especially if we are traveling in an area without cellphone service, which we do regularly.

And while I also see tremendous value in amateur radio, the reality is that most operators are now using commercially built equipment and they generally do not repair it themselves. For this reason, the requirement for formal examinations, and especially three classes license, went away with the twentieth century. If a license test is required then make it a simple open-book quiz focusing on electrical safety, RF safety, interference reduction and prevention, and band limits. But regardless of the test structure, there only needs to be one license class, allowing all licensees to use all available frequencies and privileges within the amateur spectrum.

But ideally, I believe that amateur radio licensing should simply be what GMRS licensing is today: A simple permit obtainable by anybody by registering and perhaps paying a fee. It's 2025, not 1975 after all.

The current administration has called for the repeal of unnecessary regulations that are burdensome to both the public and the government. There are so many of these outdated regulations within the FCC's sphere of influence that have been stagnant since the Carter administration.

Respectfully,

/s/

Randy Brown